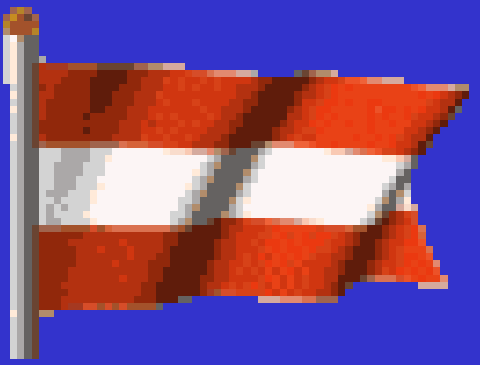
TRAVELER'S BRIEFING



AUSTRIA

(REPUBLIK OESTERREICH)

HESSEN
Kitzingen
Forchheim
Weiden
BAVARIA
Plzeň
CZECH REPUBLIC
Svitavy
Olomouc
Příbram
Humpolec
Přerov
Heidelberg
Nürnberg
Amberg
Domažlice
Blatná
Tábor
Jihlava
Prostějov
Zlín
Heilbronn
Altdorf
Cham
Strakonice
Třebíč
Brno
Ansbach
Písek
Schwäbisch Hall
Regensburg
Jindřichův Hradec
Kyjov
Stuttgart
Neuburg an der Donau
Straubing
Ingolstadt
České Budějovice
Trenčín
Tübingen
Vilshofen
Zwettl
SLOVAKIA
Landshut
GERMANY
Ulm
Passau
Trnava
BADEN-
Augsburg
Munich
(München)
Ried im Innkreis
Linz
Vienna
(Wien)
St. Pölten
WÜRTTEMBERG
Mindelheim
Wels
Enns
Ybbs an der Donau
Bratislava
Saulgau
Traunreut
Steyr
Kaufbeuren
Rosenheim
Mosonmagyaróvár
Gmunden
Konstanz
Kempten
Wiener Neustadt
Győr
Salzburg
Garmisch-Partenkirchen
Sopron
Bregenz
Liezen
Eisenerz
Kőszeg
DUNÁNTÚL
St. Gallen
Zell am See
Szombathely
Vaduz
Knittelfeld
Weiz
Innsbruck
AUSTRIA
Judenburg
Graz
Fürstenfeld
Ajka
Wildspitze
3774 m
(12,382 ft)
Chur
Zalaegerszeg
Lienz
Spittal
SWITZERLAND
Csonkahegyhát
Merano
Villach
Klagenfurt
HUNGARY
Piz Kesch
3418 m
(11,214 ft)
Bolzano
Kranjska Gora
Slovenj Gradec
Maribor
Monte Marmolada 3342 m (10,965 ft)
Kranj
Celje
Kaposvár
Sondrio
Koprivnica
Belluno
Lugano
Trento
Udine
Ljubljana
Križevci
Pordenone
Como
ITALY
SLOVENIA
Zagreb
CROATIA
Portogruaro
Gorizia
Bergamo
Kočevje
Metlika
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BACKGROUND

Full Name: Republic of Austria

Capital: Vienna

Population: 8,139,299 (est)

Type of government: Federal Republic

Head of government: Pres Thomas Kles

Chancellor Victor Klima

Official language(s) German

Economy: Market economy

Religions: Catholic (78%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: None. Austria requires all vehicles to display a highway tax sticker "Autobahn Vignette". Fines

International Airport: Vienna

Flights from Frankfurt: Lufthansa, Austrian Air

Other methods of arrival: Road/rail

U.S. Embassy address: Boltzmanngasse 16 in the Ninth District, Vienna.

Transportation: Public transportation: Excellent.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Excellent.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Excellent.

Availability of roadside assistance: Excellent. An international driver's license is mandatory in Austria to operate any motor vehicle, unless part of Balkans operations. International insurance certificate (Carte d'Assurance - green card) is required for travel by privately-owned

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: US military personnel who are Bosnian Peace Agreement Sustainment Force (SFOR) members or support SFOR and are transiting Austria as part of unit or individual military movement are required to possess a valid US forces identification card. A military driver's license suffices for vehicle movement, and the requirement for proof of vehicle liability insurance (green card) is waived. Passports are required for all TDY personnel. Military personnel on leave may travel on a military identification card and leave orders. Civilian personnel (including dependents) require passports. Visas are required

Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required. Customs inspection is not required for personnel and equipment if remaining at the airport. US personnel must register with local police. This is automatically accomplished by local hotel personnel using the information provided on the registration form when checking into the

Amembassy operating hours are 0830-1700L Mon-Fri. Amembassy communications unit hours are 0730-1800L Mon-

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: Duty-free entry for personal effects: two cameras (one still and l0 rolls of film and one movie and l0 rolls of film), jewelry, portable typewriter, cigarette lighter, electric razor, record player and records, open containers of 80 cigars or 400 cigarettes or 500 grams of tobacco, one bottle of wine, and one bottle of liquor. Tourists may export up to $500 worth of purchases without special permission. Photographing military installations is prohibited. In summer, request lodging a minimum of two weeks in advance; other times, one week. Traffic information and road conditions are broadcast on the English language channel FM4, located between 91 and 105 FM depending on the locale. On many mountain roads the use of chains are required by law during periods of heavy snowfall. Highways, city streets, and major roads are cleaned of snow around the clock. Drivers should exercise caution during winter vacation (December to February), Easter, and summer vacation (July and August) due

The Amembassy is closed weekends, Austrian holidays, and US holidays

MONEY

Currency restrictions: There are no restrictions on currency imports. Export of Austrian schillings is limited to l5,000 per person. The cashier in the Amembassy, Vienna is not permitted to cash personal checks for personnel on leave status unless they possess a valid diplomatic passport. Government-controlled exchange facilities are located at airports, railroad stations, banks, exchange offices, and American Express offices in major cities. Exchange currency at airports during hours when regular commercial flights are scheduled. Banking hours are 0800-l300 and l400-l530. Registered guests may also exchange small amounts at their hotel(s). Any foreign currency changed to Austrian schillings may be reconverted into original currency in an amount not exceeding the amount exchanged. Passport is required for identification. When foreign currency is changed to schillings, a conversion statement is furnished by the agency. This statement is required when reconverting.

Rate: Approximate: 14 Austrian schillings for $1.

HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, and industrial pollution

Availability of medical services: Good medical care is widely available. Doctors and hospitals often expect immediate cash payment for health services. .

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Austria. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Good.

Health Precautions: None. .

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B (recommended), TB (recommended) MMR (recommended) , Influenza (recommended) and tetanus-diptheria boosters (recommended). .

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance: Required for all military personnel traveling to Austria. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through G3/S3 channels. Country clearance thru USDAO Vienna is required for all DoD personnel entering Austria on official business. TDY personnel must register with USDAO. Phone registration is acceptable. Ground transit clearance: Ground transit clearance thru USDAO Vienna is required for all DoD

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

According to the Austrian Automobile Association (OAMTC), road conditions and traffic safety are very good throughout Austria. During the winter road conditions in the alpine area may change drastically due to snow and ice. Roads in the mountain areas may be closed for several days or longer. Many rental car contracts prohibit drivers from taking rented vehicles into Eastern European countries. Drivers attempting to enter countries listed as "prohibited" on the car rental

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Austria has a low crime rate, and violent crime is rare. However, crimes involving theft of personal property have increased in recent years. Travelers can become targets of pickpockets and purse-snatchers who operate where tourists tend to gather; favorite spots include Vienna's two largest train stations. The loss or theft of a U.S. passport overseas should be reported immediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Austria is strict on: Firearms are prohibited. Penalties for possession,
use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in Austria are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and fines.

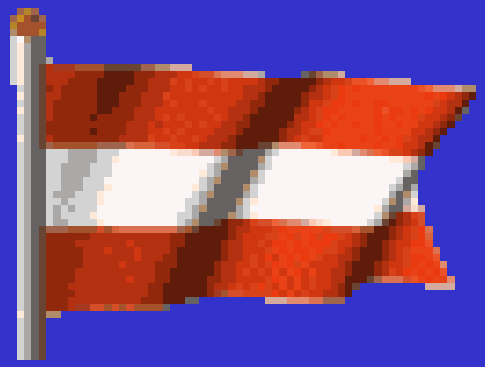
WEATHER

http://

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Civilian clothing is mandatory at all times unless prior authorization has been granted by Austrian officials in response to individual requests to wear the uniform. Such requests must be made to the USDAO not later than three working days prior to the event and are normally granted for attendance at military functions. Clothing suitable for northeastern US is recommended.

This concludes the TRAVELER'S BRIEFING for



AUSTRIA